

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 16679

EXDIS

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR, OEXD

SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS - SUMMARY OF NOV 1 PLENARY

PNE MESSAGE NUMBER FORTY-ONE

1. THE 13TH PLENARY BEGAN THIS MRNING WITH A MOVIE OF AN EXCAVATION EXPERIMENT ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE KAMA-PECHORA CANAL. IT WAS FOLLOWED BY A TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT BY MYASNIKOV. HIGHLIGHTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

THREE CHARGES WERE SIMULTANEOUSLY DETONATED, EACH WITH A YIELD OF FIFTEEN KT EMPLACED AT A DEPTH OF 128 METERS. EMPLACE-
MENT HOLES WERE SEPARATED BY 163.1 AND 167.5 METERS. DEPTH
TO GROUND WATER BETWEEN 5 AND 17 METERS. MAXIMUM LENGTH
OF THE OBSERVABLE TRENCH CUT WAS 700 METERS AND WIDTH WAS
UP TO 350 METERS. DEPTH VARIED FROM 10 TO 15 METERS. THE
SHOT WAS DESCRIBED AS AN EXPERIMENTAL MULTIPLE EXPLOSION,
PROVIDING DATA ON THE EFFECT OF EXPLOSIONS IN LOOSE
WATER-SATURATED GROUND, SEISMIC EFFECTS, CRATER PARAMETERS,
TIME STABILITY OF CRATER SLOPES, AND THE RADIATION
DISTRIBUTION IN ZONES NEAR THE EXPLOSION.

2. ROMNEY REMARKED THAT TELESEISMIC MAGNITUDE OF
KAMA-PECHORA EXPLOSION IMPLIED A YEILD TWO OR THREE
TIMES LARGER THAN 45 KILOTONS AND ASKED IF REASON WAS
KNOWN. RESPONSE WAS THAT YIELD SHOULD BE RECALCULATED

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USING DATA ON ROCK PROPERTIES GIVEN BY MYASNIKOV.

3. FOLLOWING FURTHER CLARIFYING QUESTIONS TO MYASNIKOV, STOESSEL GAVE PREPARED PRESENTATION (SEPTTEL) ON VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTAINED PNES LIMITED TO 100 KILOTONS, AND PROPOSED SUCH A LIMITATION AS PART OF AN AGREEMENT.

4. MOROKHOV'S PRELIMINARY RESPONDS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) A 100 KT LIMIT COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED AS THE FOUNDATION FOR AN AGREEMENT BECAUSE THERE WERE NO JURIDICAL OR TECHNICAL GROUNDS, AND LARGER YIELD EXPLOSIONS COULD BE NEEDED; (B) THE LIMIT WAS CONTRARY TO SOVIET POSITION OF PRINCIPLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO LIMIT IN NUMBER OR YIELD ON PNES; (C) MUCH AGREEMENT EXISTS ON DATA EXCHANGE BUT DATA NEEDED FOR CALIBRATION EXPLOSIONS UNDER TTBT PROTOCOL SHOULD BE ENOUGH; (D) OBSERVERS NOT NEEDED FOR TTBT TO VERIFY DEPTH AND OTHER PARAMETERS AND HENCE ILLOGICAL FOR PNES. MOROKHOV SAID THEY WOULD STUDY STATEMENT THOROUGHLY AND WILL PRESENT OWN VIEWS WITH DETAILED ARGUMENTS.

5. STOESSEL REITERATED THAT US PROPOSAL APPLIED ONLY TO CONTAINED PNES, AND CONSTITUTED ONLY ONE ELEMENT OF AN AGREEMENT. FURTHER, 100 KT SEEMED TO MEET NEEDS OF BOTH SIDES. DATA EXCHANGE REQUIRED FOR VERIFICATION WAS GREATER THAN FOR TEST SITES BECAUSE OF ABSENCE OF CALIBRATION AND MORE COMPLEX GEOLOGY.

6. MOROKHOV REJOINDER STATED THAT THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON A 100 KT LIMIT ON CONTAINED PNES. ALTHOUGH THIS WAS GOOD FOR A MAJORITY OF PURPOSES THERE MIGHT BE A NUMBER REQUIRING YIELDS MUCH GREATER THAN 100 KT. ALSO SOVIET CONCLUSION WAS THAT MORE VERIFICATION INFORMATION MIGHT BE PROVIDED FOR EXPLOSIONS ABOVE THAN BELOW 100 KILOTONS. FURTHER, SOVIETS MIGHT UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE OF THEIR PNES BETTER THAN US SIDE AND HENCE MIGHT GIVE DETAILED DATA, LIKE MYASNIKOV GAVE TODAY, IN SPECIFIC CASES. FINALLY, REASON FOR US INSISTENCE ON OBSERVERS IS NOT CLEAR SINCE NOT NEEDED FOR
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EXPLOSIONS ON TEST SITES.

7. STOESSEL RESPONDED THAT MOST CONTAINED PNES COULD BE LIMITED TO 100 KT, BUT IF SOMETHING VALUABLE WOULD BE LOST AT HIGHER YIELDS, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW. FURTHER, US STUDIES CONCLUDE THAT IT IS NOT FEASIBLE TO VERIFY THAT CONTAINED EXPLOSIONS LARGER THAN 150 KT WERE NOT WEAPONS RELATED. CONCERNING OBSERVERS, WE

KNOW THAT EXPLOSIONS ON TEST SITES ARE WEAPON TESTS, BUT FOR PNES, WE NEED TO KNOW THEY ARE NOT WEAPONS TESTS, WHICH IS MORE DIFFICULT. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO ADVANCE A PRACTICAL SUGGESTION TO MOVE OUR CONSIDERATIONS FORWARD.

8. MOROKHOV CONCLUDED ON THE NOTE THAT IT IS ILLOGICAL TO SUGGEST STRICTER CONTROLS ON 100 KT PNES THAN ON 150 KT WEAPONS TESTS. HE SAID THIS SUGGESTED THAT THE US WAS SEEKING A UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE IN VIEW OF DIFFERENT SIZE OF OUR RESPECTIVE PNE PROGRAMS. FULL RESPONSE PROMISED.

9. AFTER STOESEL COUNTERED THE UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE STATEMENT, IT WAS AGREED TO RECONVENE MONDAY MORNING.

10. A RECOMPUTATION BY FLEMING OF THE TOTAL FISSION YIELD OF THE PECHORA-KAMA EVENT USING A TOTAL YIELD OF 45 KT GIVES 2.7 KT, OR 0.9 KT PER EXPLOSIVE. METHOD IN COVD 1295 WAS USED.
STOESEL

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